Cultivating People Power for Impact

2022 Annual Report
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From The Desk Of The Global Director

For many, the thought of a technology organization with tangible assets representing years of innovation may seem like an impossible dream. However, for BudgIT, this is what it has achieved since its fortuitous entrepreneurial launch in 2011. Over a decade, it has gone from strength to strength, thanks to the commitment to innovative solutions and dedicated team members who have seen it through difficult times.

BudgIT launched Cultivating People Power for Impact, a strategy that will guide our organization over the next six years. We created this comprehensive plan through extensive review by stakeholders and donors with a vested interest in ensuring this initiative succeeds. We believe that real progress can happen toward creating better lives for every Nigerian citizen when individuals are empowered to take action on issues they care about.

To maximize the effectiveness of our efforts, we have identified areas where BudgIT will focus its resources. These include citizen empowerment, rigorous research, communication and strategic storytelling, sustainable funding and talent management, catalytic technologies, and quantum stakeholder building. Through these initiatives, we will create an environment that encourages civic participation.

BudgIT’s Active Citizen Awards was a major highlight of 2022, and we are proud to have successfully launched its first edition. The awards provided an essential platform for recognizing individuals and organizations contributing positively to their communities. The impact of this initiative on Nigerian society is twofold. Not only does it make out those who contribute positively, but it also inspires others to look at ways they can make a difference in their own lives and communities. This year’s event was flawlessly planned and executed, and we hope many more years will follow. We anticipate making this an annual tradition to celebrate those who embody our social impact mission.
Staff relocation can be both a challenge and an opportunity for organizations. On the one hand, it is seen as a loss when staff leaves because of relocation, but on the other hand, it presents an ideal chance to bring in new talent that may offer fresh perspectives and ideas. This influx of new talent provides organizations with the potential to grow through increased innovation and productivity. And with careful planning, relocating staff members may provide opportunities for career growth within the organization or create beneficial partnerships with former employees based elsewhere. Sometimes, I feel we are the targets of immense talent loss in every academic cycle, but from the look of things, it’s the current state for every organization, ours inclusive.

All of this is designed with one goal: keeping staff happy. This strategy helps us grow as an organization while ensuring our dedicated team feels supported throughout every step of the journey.

We are excited about adding a new leap to our work as we open up a complete unit focused on “Strengthening Health Systems.” This unit will be responsible for improving health outcomes with rigorous support for policy initiatives. Let us begin cultivating people’s power for impact. We believe that with this comprehensive approach, and your help, we can make great strides toward more transparent governance systems in Nigeria.

Oluseun Onigbinde  
Co-founder / Global Director  
BudgIT
Executive Summary

In 2022, a pre-election year when much of the instability created by COVID-19 started finding balance, BudgIT Foundation Nigeria, Ghana, Sierra Leone, and Liberia thrived and birthed a BudgIT Senegal. We approach our programmatic interventions with determination while adjusting to post-COVID-19 life. We had as many successes to celebrate as well as challenges that came our way—the year ended on a good rhythm. We met our targets on many fronts, rejuvenated the board, and became more committed to our growth as an organization.

The #HumansOfBudgIT also confirmed that work-life balance improved and so much more. It was also the year we said goodbye to many trusted and reliable colleagues—not by our errors, but of the reality facing young people and talents in a grappling economy like Nigeria.

On programmatic fronts, our Research and Policy Advisory team continued to serve as the bedrock of all we do at budgIT.

The team led and delivered vital research work that contributed to fiscal reforms in Nigeria and other countries where we operate. The team started the year with a consultation memo on the 2022 budget that articulated several challenges with Nigeria’s public financial management regime and proffered viable reforms.

We used the consultation memo to engage high-ranking public officials, including but not limited to the DG of the Budget Office of the Federation, the EFCC Chairman, the Fiscal Responsibility Commission Chairman, the NABRO Administrative Head, the Accountant General of the Federation, the DG of the Nigeria Governors Forum, etc. This laid the foundation for our activities carried out by the team within the year.

The 2022 State of States report was validated by at least 17 states and was presented at the 28th Nigeria Economic Summit.
The summit was a precursor to the 2nd Plenary titled Subnational Perspectives to Economic Viability. It had the Executive Secretary of PEBEC (Presidential Enabling Business Environment Council) and the Governors of Kaduna, Gombe, and Edo as panelists. The team also executed a US Consulate-funded project on “Improving Fiscal Transparency in State-Owned Enterprises (SOE)” and continued to work closely with the International Budget Partnership (IBP).

Our Extractive Transparency unit’s nomenclature changed with the launch of BudgIT’s 2022-2026 Strategy, from focusing on just extractive transparency to Natural Resource Governance and Sustainability. This change saw the unit collaborating with the Natural Resource Governance Institute (NRGI) and the Nigeria Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (NEITI) to host a 1-day national dialogue on energy transition in Abuja. The discussion was to stimulate sustainable national discourse on energy transition and to set the stage for it to become one of the key agendas for the 2023 election. The team also educated Nigerians on Nigerian NEITI’s Nigerian extractive industry audits analysis, data re-presentation, and several other natural resource governance-related projects. We are positioning ourselves to actively project the reform that an energy transition would bring to Nigeria’s economy and Nigerians.

Tracka, our service delivery promotion arm, continued to blaze the trail in public project tracking. We reformed the operational team by creating a layer for Regional Project Tracking Officers that support State Officers—organize special programs, conduct mega town hall meetings, assist in vetting Project Tracking reports, and ensure conforming to minimum established standards. We launched the Tracka Mobile 2.0 App, making it easier for citizens to track and report on public projects around them.

In 2022, we tracked 1,987 projects, of which 1,023 were completed, 417 are ongoing while 456 have not started, and 71 remain abandoned. We raised 1,324 community champions across the 36 states of Nigeria. They are now active citizens driving change in their communities, supporting Project Tracking Officers, and sensitizing their fellow residents on the importance of participatory governance.
The Open Government and Institutional Partnership unit remains a team that solidifies our work with public and private institutions. In the year under review, the OGIP team provided technical support to six state governments and personalized budget and spent data to citizens through the various BudgIT platforms — www.govspend.ng and www.me.budgit.org. The team provided technical support to the Federal Ministry of Agriculture on work plan and budget development and deployed a performance monitoring portal to improve the ministry’s efficiency. The team also worked with the SCALE Palladium team to train CSOs from across Nigeria on advocacy strategy, budget analysis, and data visualization.

Generally, our people remain the greatest assets of BudgIT and the driving force behind all the feats and achievements recorded not just in the year 2022 but over the 11 years of our existence. It is always painful dealing with staff exits as we now usually do. Still, it is comforting to know that folks that leave BudgIT, if not to Western economies, go to bigger global organizations.

We are now embracing this as a good thing rather than focusing on the pain of losing good hands and constantly raising new talents. The beauty of it all for us is that we have successfully created a succession plan for every team that ensures a smooth operation irrespective of who transits in or out of the organization.

It has been a great pleasure to lead the dynamic BudgIT HQ team and manage our program interventions and stakeholders—board, trustees, staff, donors, consultants, contractors, and, importantly, our followers and the general public. The year 2023 looks promising, particularly considering that Nigeria will have a change of government at the federal level and across 28 states. We anticipate doing much in the post-election days to further contribute to Nigeria’s attaining participatory governance and democratic development.

Gabriel Okeowo  
Country Director  
BudgIT, Nigeria
Programme Statistics

- **114** Media Appearances
- **1623** Online Newspaper Mentions
- **274** Print Newspaper Mentions
- **9** Podcasts
- **60** Advertorials
- **16.15M** Total Impressions on Twitter
- **1,967** Projects Tracked
- **516** Petitions Submitted to Legislators and MDAs
- **400k** Twitter Followers
- **985k** Twitter Profile Visits
- **1,246** Town Hall Meetings Held
- **1,324** Community Champions Across 32 States
- **516** Petitions
- **23** Responses Received

**90k** Facebook followers
The year 2022 was remarkable for BudgIT as engagement with state and non-state actors significantly improved. The research team developed a consultation memo on the 2022 budget that articulated several challenges with Nigeria’s public financial management regime and offered viable reforms. We used the consultation memo to engage high-ranking public officials, including but not limited to the DG of the Budget Office of the Federation, the EFCC Chairman, the Fiscal Responsibility Commission Chairman, the NABRO Administrative Head, the Accountant General of the Federation, the DG of the Nigeria Governors Forum, etc.

In 2022, BudgIT reviewed its methodology for its flagship project—the State of States. The State of States is a comparative assessment of the fiscal viability, performance, and to a large extent, sustainability of 36 states of the federation.

The methodology was reworked to adequately assess the domestic resource mobilization and the debt sustainability of the states. The methodology was validated by a sizable number of states, represented by either their Finance Commissioners, Accountant Generals, or both. Subsequently, the State of States report was validated by at least 17 states and launched in October 2022.

One of the 2022 significant highlights of the research and policy advisory team was the presentation of the 2022 State of States titled Subnational Governance Reforms for a New Era at the 28th Nigeria Economic Summit. The presentation was a precursor to the 2nd Plenary tagged Subnational Perspectives to Economic Viability, with the Executive Secretary of PEBEC (Presidential Enabling Business Environment Council) and the Governors of Kaduna, Gombe, and Edo as panelists.
At the same Summit, BudgIT, through the Head of Research, alongside the Governor of Edo state and the DG of the Debt Management Organisation DMO, participated in a panel session focused on States Fiscal Transparency, Accountability, and Sustainability (SFTAS) Program’s sustainability and performance.

The US Consulate-funded project on “Improving Fiscal Transparency in State-owned Enterprises (SOE)” was a 12-month project BudgIT implemented. Among other things, BudgIT was able to record several successes. Some of them ranged from training CSOs on budget understanding, co-creating an advocacy roadmap on SOE’s transparency with CSOs, creating dozens of media pieces (infographics and interactive applications) on Budget Realism, distribution of memos and policy briefs to crucial federal government actors to advocate for improved disclosure of natural resources financials and SOEs, and engagements with the leadership of SOEs for transparency and efficiency promotion.

To further amplify its gender-related work, BudgIT implemented a Publish What You Fund (PWYF)-funded project focused on improving funding transparency towards women’s economic empowerment, financial inclusion, economic collectives, and gender integration in Nigeria. BudgIT facilitated a launch event and a post-launch engagement with stakeholders and participated in a recorded video speech. The project ended in July 2022 with a research report by BudgIT titled Assessing National Funding for Women Economic Empowerment in Nigeria* and other reports the funding agency carried out in Nigeria and other countries.

1. Remarks, Keynote Speaker: Country Director, Host of BudaT 2022 State of States
2. Mr. Okushe-Onayanke, Global Director BudaT at 2022 State of States
3. Alex Fairley-Kwamaka of Publish What You Fund giving her presentation at the round table discussion on women economic empowerment
4. Mr. Gabriel Okonowo, Nigeria Country Director BudaT, 2023 State of States
5. Cross-section of Guests and the General Public at the BudaT 2022 State of States
6. Damilola Osinowo taking a session during the Publish What You Fund event in Abuja
1. Attendees at the Fiscal Transparency of State-Owned Enterprises, Abuja
2. Dr Ann Walter of DRPC giving the closing remarks of the round table discussion on women empowerment
3. Copies of BudgIT 2022 State of States Report
4. Staff of the US Consulate, Lagos and Staff of the BudgIT HQ, Lagos
5. Prof. Anthony Simbiri, Keynote Speaker at BudgIT 2022 State of States
6. BudgIT Staff at 2022 State of States
7. Panel session during the PutData What You Fund event in Abuja
Program Figures

Total Number of Reports Analyzed
48

Total Number of Infographics
over 300

Media Engagements
58
24 radio
24 TV appearances
and 10 podcasts
Key Links

National Assembly Policy Memo

2022 Consultation Memo on FG Budget Reforms

National Dialogue on Energy Transition Report

Mainstreaming Transparency in SOEs

Biometric Verification and BVN in Payroll Management Systems

Assessing National Funding for Women’s Economic Empowerment in Nigeria
Key Links

State of States 2022

2023 Federal Government Proposed Budget

The TSA as a Strategy for Blocking Leakages
https://budgit.org/post_publications/the-tsa-as-a-strategy-for-blocking-leakages/

Remedying the Scourge of Ghost Workers in Nigeria

Transparency and the Problem of Poor Governance in SOEs
Is Nigeria broke?
What’s our way out of the current fiscal crisis?

Tuesday, July 26, 2022
BudgiT’s Twitter Spaces
We started the year by launching our newly developed website, FixOurOil. The website provides citizens, CSOs, and the media with insights and data on the prevailing issues in the extractive industry to advance advocacy for Nigeria’s natural resource governance and sustainability. It also serves as a repository for BudgIT’s latest infographics, policy briefs, interactive videos, blog posts on the extractive industry, and data segments that consist of simplified NNPC data from their monthly financial and operations reports.

BudgIT, in collaboration with the Natural Resource Governance Institute (NRGI) and the Nigeria Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (NEITI), hosted a 1-day national dialogue on energy transition in Abuja.

The discussion was to stimulate sustainable national discourse on energy transition and to set the stage for it to become one of the key agendas for the 2023 election. The dialogue provided a multi-stakeholder platform for state and non-state actors to discuss, debate, and make meaningful contributions to Nigeria’s ongoing discourse on energy transition and increased public awareness of the challenges, risks, and opportunities associated with the energy transition.

The financial health of the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation Limited is of pivotal importance to every Nigerian citizen. We reviewed and analyzed NNPC Limited’s 2021 operations and financial performance data and audited their financial statements to identify potential areas of leakages that need to be plugged in and areas of opportunity to be exploited by them.
Another area we have set the trend on availing information to enlightening Nigerians is the analysis and re-presentation of the data shared by the Nigerian Extractives Industries and Transparency Initiatives (NEITI) on their audits of the Nigerian extractive industry, amongst other documentation. The 2020 audit reports (Solid Minerals and Oil and Gas) were analyzed, visualized, and disseminated via our social media platforms.

As part of our advocacy for adopting Open Government Partnership and Open Contracting at the subnational level, we paid an advocacy visit to the office of the Executive Secretary, Bureau of Public Procurement, and the Commissioner for Finance in Akwa Ibom State. We emphasized the significance of the Open Government Partnership and the need for state governments to be acquainted with the open government partnership reforms. To contribute to improved efficiency and innovation in the governance of natural resources, BudgIT carried out some critical research and made some recommendations to enhance the efficiency and management of some essential areas of the oil and gas sector. They include “Beneficial Ownership Transparency,” “Contract Transparency Reforms,” “Benefits Transfer and its Challenges in the Oil-Producing States in Nigeria,” and “Areas of Strategic Partnership on Open Contracting.” We also developed a handbook from the Petroleum Industry Act (PIA) to provide insight into the laws and regulations governing the petroleum industry.

To cover the scope of the objective, we carefully selected four topics of discourse to enable citizens to know their rights, reforms, and action to ensure good governance in the extractive sector. We had a ten-week radio campaign to sensitize citizens on good governance’s gaps, impact, and strategies. Analytics presented at the end of the campaign showed that the radio campaign reached over 8 million citizens across Port Harcourt, Calabar, and Uyo.
1. BudgIT team with the Executive Secretaries - Bureau of Public Procurement, Akwa Ibom state
2. BudgIT's Head of Extractive, Adepeke Amkbra, giving a remark at the National Dialogue on Energy Transition
3. Energy Transition Dialogue with stakeholders in Rivers state
4. Participant of the Energy Transition Dialogue in Rivers State
1 - Participants at the National Dialogue on Energy Transition in Nigeria
2 - Group Picture of Stakeholders at the National Dialogue on Energy Transition in Nigeria
3 - Gabriel Okeowo, Country Director, BudgiT Nigeria giving a remark during the National Dialogue on Energy Transition in Nigeria
4 - Panel Session at the National Dialogue on Energy Transition in Nigeria
Program Figures

- Total Number of Reports Analyzed: 11
- Total Number of Infographics: 114
- Radio Program: 13
- Podcasts: 2
- Blog Posts: 2
Key Links

The Sovereign Wealth Fund: Has Nigeria lost the chance to save for the future?

Open Contracting in Nigeria: Are states making progress or not?
https://yourbudgit.com/open-contracting-in-nigeria-are-states-making-progress-or-not/

BudgIT engages stakeholders in Rivers on Open Contracting
https://yourbudgit.com/budgit-engages-stakeholders-in-rivers-state-on-open-contracting/

PIA Handbook

NNPC Limited’s 2021 Audit Reports Analysis
Key Links

NNPC’s Performance Review in 2021

Beneficial Ownership Transparency in Nigeria

Contract Transparency Reforms in Nigeria

Benefits Transfer and Its Challenges in the Oil-Producing States in Nigeria

Areas of Strategic Partnership on Open Contracting
In 2022, as the country geared up for the 2023 general elections, we focused on sensitizing communities in addition to our project tracking and community advocacy activities. The country was and is still in a critical period, and decisions taken at the polls ultimately affect our work and impact. Moreover, we needed to sensitize people on how governance works and why focusing on other tiers of government as much as on the Presidency matters. During this exercise, our tracking officers and community champion representatives reached out to over 167,000 citizens in 1,246 town hall meetings across 32 states.

We tracked 1,967 projects, of which 1,023 have been completed, 417 are ongoing while 456 have not started, and 71 remain abandoned. To demand the implementation status of the constituency and zonal intervention projects, we wrote 516 letters to lawmakers and MDAs. We have received only 23 responses on the state of projects domiciled under them so far. We raised over 1,324 community champions across 32 states. They are now active citizens driving change in their communities, supporting Project Tracking Officers, and sensitizing their fellow residents on the importance of participatory governance.

We launched BudgIT’s first-ever mobile app—Tracka Mobile 2.0—to bring participatory governance closer to citizens. The app provides features where citizens can view all the federal projects in a state for a particular year, search and report specific projects in their community, view monthly federal allocations to their Local Government Area, and many more.
Using online tools, we educated over 12 million citizens on budget advocacy and civic engagement through media engagements. We built the capacity of over 26 CSOs on budget advocacy and project monitoring. We published 18 community advocacy stories and recorded 27 impact projects across 15 states through direct advocacies. For social media, our Twitter following grew from 110,000 to 121,000, while the total impressions and engagements amounted to 150,000,000.

Our Facebook following increased from 11,000 to 14,500, and the total impressions and engagements reached 86,000. We partnered with Hallowmace Foundation at the National Legislative Conference to launch our 2021 Constituency Tracking Report. Political dignitaries such as Senator Olujimi Abiodun, Hon Ado Dogowa, and others attended the event. Hon Ado Dogowa promised to address the shortcomings we raised in the report.
1 - Front PTO-Shell Omada and Doroji Community Champions
2 - North-Central Regional Coordinator Moses Motoni giving a presentation at the Niger State 2023 Budget Townhall meeting
3 - 2023 Voter Registration Exercise
4 - 2023 Voter Registration Exercise
5 - 2023 Voter Registration Exercise
6 - Townhall Meeting in Bula
1 - Townhall meeting in FCT
2 - At the launch of 2021 Constituency Projects Tracking Report
3 - Townhall meeting
4 - Townhall meeting in Nasarawa
5 - Townhall meeting in Nasarawa
1967 Projects tracked

516 letters written to lawmakers and MDAs

Over 12m citizens educated

1324 community champions across 32 states

Twitter following increased from 110k to 121k

150m engagements

Facebook following increased from 11k to 14.5k

89k engagements
Your work as an Active Citizen just became easier

Download the Tracka Mobile 2.0 Now

01
Track and Monitor Constituency Projects Domiciled in your State

02
Prompt your elected representatives about projects your community needs

03
Track Federal Allocations to your Local Government

04
Contact your elected representatives through Tracka

Net Allocations

<table>
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<tr>
<td>September</td>
<td>N172,927,668.06</td>
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Open Government & Institutional Partnerships

“Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much.”  
– Helen Keller

BudgIT worked with state and non-state actors at the national and sub-national levels through the OGP secretariat to develop the National Action Plan 3 (NAP3).

In 2022, the department continued collaborating with states across Nigeria on subnational transparency. We provided technical support and partnership on curating economic data, and this time, Ondo and Plateau States joined our MoU-signed states.

Open Alliance was part of the process from development to validation. BudgIT worked with state and non-state actors at the national and sub-national levels through the OGP secretariat to develop the National Action Plan 3 (NAP3). The NAP3 implementation will begin in February 2023 once the Presidency signs it off.

Some worthy indicators for BudgIT include: proposed, approved, and citizens’ budgets, Needs Assessment reports, Citizens’ Accountability reports, Budget Implementation reports, etc. BudgIT will collaborate with Nigeria Governors’ Forum (NGF) to ensure that states continually uphold transparency and accountability.

In 2022, BudgIT supported the Federal Ministry of Agriculture in technical capacity building on work plan development. AGRA supported this feat. A financial performance monitoring portal was developed for the ministry to aid their work.
BudgIT plans to support other MDAs at the federal and state levels. BudgIT launched two web portals (GovSpend and Personalized Data) in 2021, which the department manages. For a better user experience, in 2022, we revamped the portals, and citizens can use the GovSpend portal to monitor Federal MDAs’ daily and monthly spending, especially funds for public projects.

In 2022, BudgIT worked with the Palladium team to develop a training guide based on the advocacy gaps identified in the assessment. It created a mobile application, Tracka Mobile 2.0 app, an innovative advocacy application to strengthen CSOs/BMOs’ capacity to engage citizens and groups. The aid elected representatives, MDAs, CSOs, and NGOs to conduct a proper needs assessment and tailored interventions.

BudgIT supported cluster organizations with budget information and analyzed budget documents. BudgIT also supported the Africa Human Development Centre in analyzing the Akwa Ibom State Government budget allocation for Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH).

BudgIT also facilitated a 3-day training on budget analysis and scorecard development for the Maigodiya cluster to fulfill their advocacy agenda: pushing for an increase in the health sector budget allocation and improved health budget performance in Adamawa and Taraba states.
1 - Director at the Federal Ministry of Agriculture during a capacity building exercise
2 - Engaging participant during capacity building organized for the Federal Ministry of Agric.
3 - Consultants in deep conversation
4 - BudgIT Country Director, Gabriel Okeowo during the MoU signing with the Ondo State Government
5 - Group photograph with the officers of Federal Ministry of Agric.
Institutional Partnerships Across Selected States in Nigeria

- Event/Workshop: 5
- Publications: 2
- MoU Partnerships: 2 states (Plateau and Ondo)
- Technical and Institutional Support: 2 states (Niger and Ondo) and AMAC
- Press Statements: 5
- Media Engagements: 10 reports, 15 radio appearances, 2 TV appearances
Discover who is being paid, what they are getting paid for, and when they were paid.

www.govspend.ng
The year 2022 was significant for Civic Hive. We focused on enhancing the civic space ecosystem through several programs. Also, because it was a year before an election, Civic Hive created numerous resources to educate the electorate ahead. Below are highlights of our programs:

### Civic Hive Fellowship 2022

Civic Hive launched the Civic Hive Fellowship 2022, tagged The Next Civic Leader. We inducted ten outstanding ideas, such as Balm Health and Motivator’s Crib, working to create mental health solutions and drug abuse and addiction education. JusticePadi is working to promote access to justice and criminal reforms in Nigeria.

### Civic Hive Masterclass

We supported civic society organizations in boosting their data analysis, research writing, organization strategy, and impact measuring skills as one of our primary objectives to help existing NGOs increase their capacity. About thirty non-profit organizations participated in our virtual masterclass on “Effective Strategies for Enhancing Non-Profit Sustainability.”
2023 Election: What Are the Issues?

The Civic Hive 2023 election project’s overarching goal is to raise civic engagement, dialogue, and active inclusion in governance at all levels by enhancing civic education in underserved communities, particularly among young people, women, and underrepresented groups. We took the following actions to accomplish this goal:

The Value of Vote Campaign

We ran this campaign in four different regions—Ogun and Osun in the southwest, Benue in the northcentral, Borno in the northeast, and Enugu in the southeast. Additionally, we had a sit-down conversation with a few IDPs in the Gomari host community, Borno, in which we sensitized them on the importance of their vote. Through this effort, we were able to inform and educate thousands of rural residents about the importance of voting and the risk of buying and selling votes.

Twitter Spaces to Educate the Public on the Candidates’ Manifestos

We dissected the promises made in the policy documents of the three presidential front-runners and presented them in a way that the electorate could easily grasp. About 2000 listeners joined the discussion on our Twitter space.

Election Interactive Maps

Three tenets form the foundation of our interactive map. The first is to act as a databank for all results of previous presidential elections. As a result, citizens, journalists, writers, and data aficionados will have a reliable source for election information in Nigeria. The second is a feature that enables users to engage with past data and predict the outcome of the 2023 election. The last is a live election result that will provide a live update on the outcome of the 2023 election. Since the platform’s launch in December 2022, we have had over fifty users sign up on the website.
1 - A townhall discussion with the youths of Makurdi on the Value of a Vote
2 - Value of a Vote Sensitization
3 - Value of a Vote Sensitization
4 - CivicHive Fellows with the CivicHive Team at the Close out ceremony in Abuja
5 - Director of CivicHive, Okisosen Onibinde at the CivicHive Fellowship 2022
1 - Civic Hive and BuildIT team at the value of a vote campaign in Oshogbo, Osun State
2 - Former Civic Hive team lead, Olusadeun Molabi, during the Civic Hive Fellowship 2022 Induction
3 - Civic Hive Project Leader, Musa Temidayo, at the value of a vote town hall in Maiduguri
4 - Group photo of attendees of the Value of a Vote town hall in Maiduguri
5 - The Civic Hive Team, Zahra Salawy, Olusadeun Molabi, and Roseline Nyong
6 - Value of a Vote campaign in, Osun State
Working To Close The Budget Access Gap In Africa

One of the most powerful ways to empower a community is to collectively improve their understanding of the budget and how it affects them. Why? Because the bond of a community that demands accountability can be fulfilling and economically rewarding.

Our simplified public budgets enabled over 22,000 citizens in Liberia, Ghana, Sierra Leone, and Senegal to participate and demand transparency and accountability in public spending. BudgIT’s country offices simplified budget reports to list the government’s priorities for the year. They encouraged citizens to demand service delivery in their communities through town hall meetings, radio discussions, and social media.

BudgIT used these issues to engage citizens and promote civic participation in governance.

BudgIT believes everyone should know how budgets affect them, but over 5.5 million people cannot access their national budgets. The following is what we did in 2022 to fix that.

**Community Outreach Programs and Radio Discussions**

With competing priorities and limited revenue, citizens must insist that annual budgets address their needs. For this reason, we prioritized offline engagement with community leaders, who helped draw members to our sensitization meetings and continued the discussions on the radio—the BudgIT Hour—for broader outreach.
BudgiT Ghana held town hall meetings in six communities—Obuasi, Takoradi, Cape Coast, Ada Foah, Somanya, and Tarkwa—to discuss the 2022 budget and promote participatory budgeting.

With National Endowment for Democracy funding, BudgiT Liberia served underserved communities in Montserrado, Grand Cape Mount, Grand Bassa, Margibi, and Bong counties. Liberians received simplified budget pamphlets to motivate public officials. BudgiT Sierra Leone held dialect-specific town hall meetings in Freetown, Bo, and Kabala to explain the government’s 2022 priorities.

**Social Media Engagement**

Connecting with peers and others through social media can encourage youth participation in active citizenship. We use explainer videos, infographics, and live discussions to reach them to increase budget and governance awareness and participation. In 2022, our Facebook and Twitter engagements went from 68,000 to 180,000, suggesting that young people are more likely to participate in civic activities when information is readily available.

**Partnerships with CSOs, Media, and the Government**

Our country offices worked with civil society, the media, and the government to fulfill our mission. Sierra Leone, Ghana, and Liberia Open Government Partnership offices supported us. BudgiT created an interactive website with the Liberia Legislative Budget Office to improve budget transparency and help its citizen-friendly budgets. In the next phase, we will prioritize more strategic partnerships.

**Management of Epidemic Funds and Resources in Africa: The COVID-19 Transparency and Accountability Project (CTAP)**

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, BudgiT and Connected Development (CODE) launched the COVID-19 Transparency and Accountability Project (CTAP) to improve fund allocation and utilization in the focus countries. BudgiT was the lead partner for Ghana, Senegal, Nigeria*, Liberia**, and Sierra Leone***, while CODE co-managed the project. CTAP examined health systems and COVID-19 vaccine uptake in these countries.

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Strong Coalitions for Health Sector Accountability

One of the highlights of 2022 was creating and supporting coalitions of relevant government and private stakeholders in these countries. We collaborated with civil society, media, and government in these countries, increasing our engagement with citizens, stakeholders, and the government.

Health Sector Accountability Research

The study examined the health sector’s accountability in the focus countries, including healthcare delivery, government responsibilities (management, funding, and policy), accountability dynamics, and health sector stakeholders. We examined political, bureaucratic, and political-economic barriers, health sector governance corruption, and reforms. We also focused on the following:

1. COVID-19 Vaccine Myths: twenty infographics, two research papers, and PHC advocacy

2. Radio and Townhall Advocacy: five coalition meetings and 200 radio appearances reached 50,000 people

3. Open Government Partnership Launch: partnership meetings in all focus countries

4. Common Observation Across all Focus Countries:

   - The results show poor healthcare funding across countries
   - COVID-19 vaccines must be classified as general vaccinations to be widely accepted
   - Capital infrastructure funds must be implemented and monitored for massive results
   - Use Open Government Partnership (OGP) and other transparency and accountability mechanisms in these countries
   - The ministry must prioritize health workers’ welfare to prevent skilled healthcare workers from leaving the focus countries
Impact Numbers in 2022

Over 180k citizens reached across our focus countries (online)

50 community outreach meetings

25 partnership and institutional engagements

34 public projects tracked

1 interactive website for Liberia Budget Office

12 explainer videos

99 radio shows
In a society with ever-increasing communication demands, we discovered that storytelling plays a substantial role in audience engagement and connection. Since then, our drive has been to ensure that the general public recognizes our efforts and knows how to exploit them. To this end, we have used various inventive methods and products to drive communication and engagement.

For 2022, we made a concerted effort to equip the public with the resources and channels it needs to participate actively in governance. We discovered that providing the public with various civic instruments to improve participatory government is essential to creating a society of engaged people. So far, we have accomplished some noteworthy feats, the first of which was the creation of fixourcall.com, a platform for information sharing and advocacy work to improve Nigeria's natural resources management.

We released the Tracka Mobile 2.0 later in the year, marking our first foray into mobile app development in almost a decade and another milestone in our effort to foster more participatory governance. The Tracka Mobile app will guarantee open budgets and efficient service delivery by facilitating citizens’ involvement in government and public finance. Our latest success is the introduction of the Civic Hive Election Portal.

As the 2023 general election approaches, it is crucial for Nigerians to be well-informed and to have easy access to information about the manifestos, pledges, and accomplishments of candidates, as well as, most significantly, topics related to Nigeria’s 2023 general elections.
In addition to supporting more fiscal transparency and accountability at the state level, we collaborated with the Ondo state government and the Nigerian Investment Promotion Commission, among others, to assist their efforts to reform state budgets and enhance service delivery. Through BudgIT’s half-hour radio talks launch in Southern Nigeria, we reached and educated more than 5 million people on pressing social and economic issues at the national and sub-national levels.

We have expanded throughout Africa effectively and set up shop in the United States, which is now responsible for coordinating our international expansion efforts in Liberia, Sierra Leone, and Senegal. Indeed, 2022 was a pivotal year for us, and we used the power of storytelling to tell the world about our progress in the public sphere.

But we did not just tell our own stories. In September 2022, we told the stories of phenomenal individuals and organizations making long-lasting civic impacts for the public’s good and advancing the nation’s democratic development through the Active Citizens Award.

On advocacies and campaigns, we have become vocal about our concerns on the approved 2022 Budget, including the 460 duplicated projects and projects tied to National Assembly members found susceptible to corruption. Other prominent advocacies involve pressuring state governments to pay the back pay owed to civil servants in certain states. Because, as of July 28, 2022, at least 12 out of the 36 states owe their employees at least one month’s wages, we voiced our discontent and called for action.
1 - Moment with the Active Citizen Award winner, Tunde Onakoya, Founder of Chess in Slums Africa...
2 - Iyana Fatoba interviewing a citizen
3 - Gabriel Okewo and the first runner up, Disability Advocacy Award Category
4 - Group Photograph with the 27 Participants in the Data Journalism training
1 - Moment with the Award for Community Service, Winners and Nominees.
2 - Jean Faloba Facilitating a session on Effective Communication, Data-Driven Storytelling for Advocacy.
3 - Fabekun Michael facilitating a session on Applying Data Principles for Data Storytelling.
4 - Olayinka Oluwosile and Maxwell Adeyi at a documentary shoot.
Landmark Creativity

The year 2022 was one for building on BudgIT’s creative innovations in the last decade. We leveraged past learnings on how to visually communicate our message through engaging infographics, the use of multimedia, and new technologies. We kept to our vision of reaching people across multiple demographics through all storytelling or awareness mediums. And with our brand becoming more mainstream, we needed to find even more creative ways to stay on course, grow our community, and spread our message.

We took our call for community champions up a notch, this time targeting Gen Z audiences through our designs and communication channels. We understood that this was the demographic more enthusiastic about being active social changemakers.

To achieve our goal of spreading awareness, we also created a comic series titled Lamba and Friends, a fun way of shining the spotlight on governance issues and encouraging our community to share our message.

One of our iconic achievements was the launch of the Active Citizens Awards, where we celebrated personalities and organizations making ground-breaking impacts within Nigeria’s civic ecosystem. Thoughtful branding and communications made it an event that would become one of BudgIT’s trademarks.
We doubled down on data visualization and infographics, as they have always been a strong means of breaking down budget data and policies to the layman. Relaunching our “Data of the Day” segment on social media, we explored new ways of visualizing data through engaging and dynamic infographic designs. We did not fail to push BudgIT’s technology products. A major highlight was the Tracka Mobile 2.0 launch, our first mobile application in ten years.

From the user-friendly app design to our engaging awareness campaign, Tracka app launch was a project to be proud of. We also took creative approaches for our major campaigns and initiatives, including Kontri Mata, ValueofaVote, StateofStates, LGAlert, FixOurOil, and others.
1 - Active Citizen Award winners: Uncle Onokoso, Founder, Chess in Slums Africa
2 - Civic Activism Award Nominees and Winner
3 - Debo Makanjuola, winner of the Art for Activism Award
4 - Disability Advocacy Award Category Nominees and Winner
1. Moments with Adepeju Jaiyeoba, winner of the Oby Ezekwesili Award for Women Advocacy
2. Moments with the first runner up for the Oby Ezekwesili Award for Women Advocacy
3. Nominees and Winner of the Solutions Journalism Award
BudgIT Foundation had a remarkable run in 2022, with many personal development and organizational increase. We had several celebrations, from weddings, childbirths, birthdays, and the median edition of Active Citizens Awards, which was planned and executed by the management and Humans of BudgIT. People are assets, not mere tools, and our employees and partners remain our most significant force; hence, we boast of having varied talents and skilled team members.

Retention and Recruitment
In this ‘japa’ period, where organizations deal with the unfortunate realities of losing critical talents to the global market, talent retention remains one of BudgIT’s top priorities. The consistency in growth-driven projects, programs, and new invention proves that BudgIT’s human capital is top-notch.

In 2022, a handful of seasoned professionals joined the team. Among them are the People and Performance Manager (Head, Human Resource Department), a Senior Developer currently leading BudgIT’s digital transformation, three Finance Officers in Ghana, Liberia, and Sierra Leone, and a Senior Research Analyst, among others.

At BudgIT, we pride ourselves in our robust and clear-cut appraisal system, which makes it easier for employees and BudgIT to evaluate their input and output for easy decision-making. We recorded two staff promotions following two appraisal periods (1st and 2nd half of the year).
Organizational Learning

Learning is in our DNA at BudgIT. We agree and work with Henry Ford’s quote, “The only thing worse than training your employees and having them leave is not training them and having them stay.” Our firm belief has always been that people can only do better if they know better. As such, BudgIT continues to be a learning hub for employees and all stakeholders. In 2022, we continued to learn internally and externally and partnered with training centers and facilitators such as Eclat Support System and Kemi Ogunkoye, an expert leadership trainer.

Our staff and Communication Officer, Nancy Odimegwu, attended a fully sponsored course by BudgIT at the Orange Academy as part of our staff development plan.

Total Rewards

Over the years, BudgIT has continuously paid careful attention to staff remuneration, essential in retaining, motivating, and attracting our best talents. Competitive salaries, bonuses, fringe benefits, employee bonding activities, and family-friendly policies ensure a happy and motivated workforce. These constant reviews account for inflation and place BudgIT at a benchmarked rate while aiming to lead the market rate.

Annual Break

The HumansofBudgIT went on its annual offsite vacation from December 16, 2022, and resumed fully onsite on January 16, 2023. We are renewed and ready to bring out the best of the year 2023, which promises to be more eventful.
1 - BudgIT staff during AfricaNxt 2022
2 - BudgIT staff during the 2022 Energy Transition Dialogue
3 - Moments from the 2022 Strategy Session
4 - BudgIT Staff during the 2022 ACAwards
5 - Launch of the 2022 Constituency Project Report
1. BudgIT Staff during the 2020 AGAwards
2. Vibes with Oluwatobilu Seni
3. BudgIT Team during the 2022 State of States Report Launch
4. Moments from the 2022 Strategy Session
5. Shots during the celebration of some interns
2022 Donor Board

To Our Donors

The Foundation appreciates the continued support by our funding providers. We are committed to ensuring that the operating funds are managed prudently and effectively to enhance the organization’s operational stability.